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7 Sep/99

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, Maryland 20852

Re: docket numbers 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197

To Whom it May Concern:

The year, 1987! Great Britain, after witnessing the cruel egg industry practice of forced molting of layer hens, humanely banned it. The United States, not only continues this harsh procedure, but is supported by the august and respected American Veterinary Medical Association.

Apparently, little emphasis is placed on the physical discomfort of the affected fowl. Even though the hens may literally be starved for one or two weeks, denied water for up to three days and frequently medicated; the egg industry continues this exploitation. The fact that very many hens succumb to shock during this period is of concern only breause of the monetary loss.

I exigently ask the USDA take a firm and positive stand in the opposition of induced or forced molting of layer hens.

Respectfully,

Kenneth G. DeNeal, Sr.

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C572

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C573

96P-0418/C572

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